



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)  
3 has provided academic and motivational support to more than 95  
4 percent of the over 257,000 underperforming students who have  
5 been in its program to go on to college since its inception 25  
6 years ago; and

7 WHEREAS, Advancement Via Individual Determination has  
8 grown over 25 years to more than 2,200 middle high schools in  
9 36 States and Department of Defense schools in 15 countries;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Advancement Via Individual Determination started  
12 in 1980 with one teacher, Mary Catherine Swanson, and 32 high  
13 school students in San Diego, California, and developed into a  
14 transferable program that creates academic success; and

15 WHEREAS, Students are selected because they are  
16 low-income, first generation, college-going students in the  
17 academic middle not performing to their level of capability;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, These students choose to take an elective class  
20 that teaches note-taking, academic reading strategies, and  
21 collaborative work styles; and

22 WHEREAS, College students support the program with  
23 individual academic coaching; and

24 WHEREAS, Students are required to take a rigorous college  
25 preparatory curriculum including advanced level courses; and

26 WHEREAS, The program provides SAT/ACT preparation, college  
27 information and financial aid assistance, college visits, and  
28 motivational experiences; and

1           WHEREAS, At the end of the first college years, 89 percent  
2 of Advancement Via Individual Determination students are fully  
3 eligible and do enroll for this sophomore year compared to a  
4 national average of 50 percent; and

5           WHEREAS, Over 98,000 teachers and administration have  
6 attended training in the high-quality teaching skills that  
7 support Advancement Via Individual Determination students; and

8           WHEREAS, In 1997, Freeport Illinois High School teacher,  
9 George Buss, was the catalyst behind bringing the AVID Program  
10 to Illinois; and

11           WHEREAS, His high school, Freeport District 145, was the  
12 first Illinois school to adopt the AVID Program; and

13           WHEREAS, Mr. Buss has served as Freeport AVID District  
14 Director since its inception and championed the AVID concept  
15 throughout Illinois; therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
18 George Buss, AVID District Director, be recognized for his  
19 exemplary work in the AVID program; and be it further

20           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to AVID District Director, George Buss.